

## 1 Network Load Balancing 2 with Connection Manipulation 3 4

### 5 RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

6 This U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent (i) is a  
7 continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters  
8 Patent No. 10/610,506 (filed June 30, 2003), (ii) is a continuation-in-part of co-  
9 pending U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent No. 10/610,519 (filed  
10 June 30, 2003), and (iii) is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S.  
11 Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent No. 10/610,321 (filed June 30,  
12 2003).

13 Specifically, this U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent is a  
14 continuation-in-part of, and hereby incorporates by reference herein the entire  
15 disclosure of, co-pending U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent No.  
16 10/610,506, filed June 30, 2003, and entitled "Flexible Network Load Balancing".

17 Specifically, this U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent is also  
18 a continuation-in-part of, and hereby incorporates by reference herein the entire  
19 disclosure of, co-pending U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent No.  
20 10/610,519, filed June 30, 2003, and entitled "Network Load Balancing with Host  
21 Status Information".

22 Specifically, this U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent is also  
23 a continuation-in-part of, and hereby incorporates by reference herein the entire  
24 disclosure of, co-pending U.S. Nonprovisional Application for Letters Patent No.

1 10/610,321, filed June 30, 2003, and entitled "Network Load Balancing with  
2 Session Information".  
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#### **TECHNICAL FIELD**

5 This disclosure relates in general to network load balancing and in  
6 particular, by way of example but not limitation, to network load balancing with  
7 connection manipulation, such as connection migration with tunneling and/or  
8 connection migration in conjunction with application-level load balancing.  
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#### **BACKGROUND**

10 Communication, and many facets of life that involve communication, has  
11 been greatly impacted by the Internet. The Internet enables information to be  
12 communicated between two people and/or entities quickly and relatively easily.  
13 The Internet includes many network nodes that are linked together such that  
14 information may be transferred between and among them. Some network nodes  
15 may be routers that propagate a packet from one link to another, may be individual  
16 client computers, may be personal networks for different entities (e.g., intranets  
17 for businesses), and so forth.  
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19 For this personal network case, as well as others, packets arriving at an  
20 Internet node or nodes are distributed to other nodes within the personal network.  
21 Such a personal network may be formed, for example, from a set of servers that  
22 can each work on packets that arrive at the personal network. A business, a  
23 university, a government office, etc. may receive many packets in a short  
24 timeframe at its personal network. In order to respond in a timely manner and to  
25 reduce the likelihood of rejection or loss of arriving packets, the personal network